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PATENT

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20 Oct 2004

Date

Gary R. Zubair

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: FORD, R., et al.

Confirmation No.: 9632

Serial No.: 10/821,055

Art Unit: 3736

Filing Date: 8 April 2004

Examiner: Robert Nasser

Title: FORMULATION AND MANIPULATION OF DATABASES OF ANALYTE
AND ASSOCIATED VALUES

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request the entry of the following preliminary amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application. An authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 03-4058 to cover additional claim fees accompanies this response in the transmittal letter. No further fees are believed to be necessary, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 03-4058 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 which may be required by this paper, with the exception of the payment of the Issue Fee.

Consideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the present amendment conforms to the amendment format requirements. If there are any problems with the format of applicants' amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.